

# Community Report



Florida Department of Health– Lee  
July 2012 through June 2013





**Mission Statement:**

**To protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.**

**Vision Statement:**

**To be the healthiest state in the nation**

**Values:**

**Innovation  
Collaboration  
Accountability  
Responsibility  
Excellence**

**INTRODUCTION**

In Lee County we are fortunate to have a large number of community leaders, coalitions and organizations working to improve the health of this community. Our partnership with these organizations strengthens and expands the public health message of prevention.

The Community Health Improvement Plan is an example of these partnerships. It is a hybrid document that combines efforts of many into a blue print for action to address critical areas of need. The work of the Injury Prevention Coalition, Tobacco Free Lee, Healthy Lee, the Lee Sustainability Plan, and Lee Memorial Health System Visioning process are combined. The Community Health Improvement Plan documents the actions that will improve health for all residents and visitors in Lee County. The Community Health Improvement Plan can be found on our website: [www.leechd.com](http://www.leechd.com).



## PARTNERSHIPS:



**Our successes are directly linked and magnified by the strong partnerships and coalitions the Department of Health Lee leads, maintains, joins, and fosters.**

- Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco (Florida Department) – Partnership with Tobacco Free Lee Coalition to help fight drug, alcohol and tobacco misuse in Lee County. Assisted with surveillance of the sale of tobacco products to minors.
- American Heart Association (AHA) – DOH-Lee is a Gold Fit-Friendly Company.
- American Lung Association (ALA) – Partner with Tobacco Program working with cessation classes in area high schools.
- Charleston Park Neighborhood Center – Chronic disease presentations, planning quarterly classes on preparing heart healthy foods in their Center's kitchen.
- Child Care of SWFL – Partnership on 5-2-1-0 campaign for reducing childhood obesity.
- Children's Network of Southwest Florida to bring the Teen Outreach Program (TOP) to Lee County.
- Dunbar Core Group Neighborhood Association – Core group participant providing chronic disease screenings/presentations.
- Dunbar 21<sup>st</sup> Century Collaboration – Community leaders and health professionals working together to cultivate partnerships that develop the community's vision of healthy children and families in zip codes 33916, 33901 and 33905.
- Edison State College School of Health Professions dental hygiene program provides education to WIC participants.
- Family Health Centers of Southwest Florida – Primary partner on 5-2-1-0 campaign for reducing childhood obesity. Collaboration for referrals for primary health care for the uninsured and underinsured clients. Also collaborate with OB/GYN Department on projects addressing family planning and basic health care access in Lee County communities.
- Florida Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) – Tobacco Coalition partner, link clients for smoking cessation classes.
- Florida Gulf Coast University School of Nursing – Health Promotion and Wellness program assists with the rotation and training of BSN degree nursing students during their community health semester.
- Goodwill – Partnership on 5-2-1-0 campaign to reduce childhood obesity. Providing education, health and wellness presentations for their clients.
- Harlem Heights Community Center – Core group participant providing screenings and presentations.
- Harry Chapin Food Bank – Growing partnership providing nutrition/diet education, health screenings and tobacco cessation opportunities at Food Pantry events across Lee County.
- Healthy Lee – Primary partner alongside numerous community partners and stakeholders targeting adult and childhood obesity.



## Partnerships Continued

- Healthy Start Coalition – Maternal and infant health. DOH-Lee contracts with them to provide care coordination for mother's and infants at risk for adverse health effects.
- Island Coast AIDS Network (ICAN) – Ongoing partnership providing HIV/AIDS prevention education.
- Kiwanis Club of Fort Myers, Gateway to the Islands partnership for back to school.
- Lee County Dental Society – In cooperation with the Salvation Army, provides free dental care to low income residents through Project Dental Care.
- Lee We Care – Combined effort of the physicians of the Lee County Medical Society, United Way and Salvation Army. It provides free specialty consultation for low income residents of Lee County.
- Lee Memorial Health System – Significant partnership on most health related events including CHANGE & Healthy Lee, 5-2-1-0 campaign and numerous community-based health fairs and health screenings.
- McGregor Clinic, Inc. – Partnership in HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment, sending referrals for education and treatment.
- Nation's Association Charities – Referrals for prescriptions, food and other social services. Provide education, health screenings, tobacco prevention and cessation services at annual health fair.
- NOVA Southeastern University – Assists with rotation and training of BSN and Masters Degree nursing students during their community health semester.
- Omega Psi Phi Fraternity – Partnership for very large annual health fair. Health Promotion coordinates the presence of DOH-Lee providing STD/HIV testing, Tobacco Cessation, WIC, Healthy Start, Shots for Tots and SWAT activities for youth.
- Pine Manor Neighborhood Association and the PACE-EH project promoting environmental changes to support healthier life styles including a community garden.
- Quality Life Center – Collaborates on health-literacy program in Dunbar 21<sup>st</sup> Century Collaboration. Provides support and health education for at-risk youth in Fort Myers and Lee County.
- Rotary Club of Bonita Springs our long standing partner for childhood immunizations.
- Salvation Army – Partnership for providing education outreach to their clients and participation in Salvation Army events.
- Southwest Florida Medical Reserve Corps – A key partnership whose members provide licensed and registered health professionals for health screenings and training for disaster response.
- Tobacco Free Lee Coalition – Creator and facilitator of community members dedicated to creating a smoke free environment.
- United Way Houses– Partnership for referrals to clients needing services beyond the scope of the DOH-Lee. Provide health education and participation in health fairs.

## MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH



Maternal and child health services focus upon assuring a healthy pregnancy, healthy newborn and healthy child. Indicators such as the infant mortality rate gauge the quality and accessibility of health care services, but are also strongly influenced by social indicators such as poverty and community support. While infant mortality rate has declined in Florida and Lee County, African American families continue to experience an infant mortality rate that is higher than in white families.

### PUBLIC HEALTH INDICATORS

Indicator	Lee County	Florida
Infant death rate per 1000 live births * 2012	6.1	6.0
Black infant death rate per 1000 live births to African American women 2012	12.1	10.7
Births to teens 15-19/1000 women aged 15-19* 2012	32.2	27.2
Repeat births to teens 15-19* 2012	14.4%	17.4%
Children completely immunized by second birthday 2011	80.3%	86.1%
First trimester entry into WIC by month <sup>@</sup>	65.8	63.4
Children enrolled in WIC who are overweight <sup>@</sup>	30.2	28.0
Participation: % Potentially WIC Eligible <sup>@</sup>	81.7	81.5
Infants ever Breastfed <sup>@</sup>	78.5	77.0

\*[www.floridacharts.com](http://www.floridacharts.com)

<sup>@</sup>WIC Data System data report July 2013



## MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH



### WHAT WE DID:

- Teenage pregnancy is identified as a problem especially for low income and minority women. DOH-Lee partnered with Children's Network of Southwest Florida to bring the Teen Outreach Program (TOP) to Lee County. TOP is an evidenced based after school curriculum that is shown to decrease teenage pregnancy and improve high school graduation rates.
- Healthy Start case managers assisted 1731 high risk pregnant women.
- Healthy Start also assisted 759 high risk children.
- The DOH-Lee in collaboration with the Lee County School Board provides health services for school students Pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade to promote student wellness, improve health and achieve academic success. This is accomplished with initiatives that support the primary goal of reducing health related barriers to learning. Through a joint partnership with the local school district, the school health program cared for 85,365 children in 100 schools.
- Through the federally funded Vaccines for Children program (VFC), we provided free immunizations to all children ages 2 months through 18 years. For the fiscal year ending 6/30/2013 we administered 23,780 shots to children.
- We provide opportunities for families to bring children for immunizations during the evening once a month at our Shots for Tots outreach clinic at the First Presbyterian Church in Bonita Springs. We have an 18-year-relationship with our community partner, the Rotary Club of Bonita Springs at this outreach clinic. For this fiscal year, we provided 545 immunizations for children at our Bonita clinic.
- We partnered with the Kiwanis Club of Fort Myers, Gateway to the Islands, for a back-to-school Shots and Shoes Outreach event in the Harlem Heights neighborhood on July 7, 2012. We were able to provide immunizations for 15 children. The Kiwanis Club also provided these children with gift cards for shoes at a local shoe store.

## Maternal and Child Health Continued



- Provide nutritional education and counseling to over 22,000 women and children in Lee County.
- Promote the 5-2-1-0 campaign to encourage a healthy lifestyle and reduce the rate of childhood obesity. The percentage of overweight WIC children 2 – 5 years old dropped from 32.1% in June 2012 to 30.2% in June 2013. In an average month approximately 750 children are assessed for height and weight at WIC clinics and over 5,000 clients received nutritional education on these topics including eating 5 fruits and vegetables daily, limiting screen time to 2 hours, getting 1 hour of physical activity and drinking 0 sugary beverages.
- Advocate breastfeeding as the best food for babies and a way to decrease the risk of ear infections, diarrhea/constipation, pneumonia and SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome).
- Offer breastfeeding information to pregnant women and their families through group classes and individual sessions.
- Breastfeeding Peer Counselors provide direct breastfeeding support and encouragement at our four WIC sites and over the telephone to help Mom after the baby is born.
- Attended community outreach events at health fairs, churches, schools, etc. to promote healthy eating.
- Family planning clinics provided pre-conceptual counseling to enable women to be in optimum health when they conceive a baby.
- Family planning staff provided pregnancy testing, education and non-directive counseling. Prenatal vitamins were given to pregnant women to decrease the risk of neural tube defects.



## Healthy Weight Collaboration

Family Health Centers, Lee County Health Department,  
Childcare of Southwest Florida, Golisano Children's Hospital,  
Goodwill, LMHS Parish Nurse program, Lee County School  
District.



In 2012, Lee County was selected as one of 40 sites in the nation to begin to address childhood obesity using a quality improvement model sponsored by the National Institute for Child Health Quality (NICHQ) and the Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA). Members of the Healthy Weight Collaborative reviewed best practices and selected the 5210 message. The positive health messages of 5210 are applicable to children, families, and adults:

- 5 - Eat 5 servings of fruits or vegetables daily**
- 2 - Reduce screen time (TV, computer, video games) to less than 2 hours daily**
- 1 - Engage in physical activity 1 hour a day**
- 0 - Eliminate sugar sweetened beverages (soda, sports drinks)**

During this reporting period, the 5210 message and graphics were provided to Lee County School District, Early Learning Coalition, Children's Advocacy Council, pediatrician offices, Children's Medical Services, Head Start and other community partners. Working with the Healthy Lee Coalition, the goal is to be certain that families see this message in multiple, diverse settings.



## CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION



Chronic diseases such as heart disease and diabetes are major causes of death and disability in Lee County. An individual's risk for chronic disease is determined by their genetics, their environment and their choices regarding diet, exercise and tobacco usage. DOH-Lee's work to reduce chronic disease is focused upon education, advocacy, and social/environmental change.

### PUBLIC HEALTH INDICATORS

Indicator	Lee County	Florida
Adults who are current smokers (2011)*	17.9%	17.1%
Adults with healthy weight (2011)(BMI 18.5-24.9)@	33.8%	31.7%
Adults meeting physical activity guidelines (2011)@	46.7%	46.2%
Children (age 5-17) with 3 or more hours of screen time/day (2011)@	45.9%	Data Not Available

\* [www.floridacharts.com](http://www.floridacharts.com)

@ [www.leecounty.healthforecast.net](http://www.leecounty.healthforecast.net)

# CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION



## WHAT WE DID:

- Promote breastfeeding as a way to reduce the risk of obesity, diabetes, asthma and allergies and cancer.
- Through our Obesity Project this year WIC nutritionists offered additional counseling to overweight women and children to assist with behavioral and eating changes to help prevent future risks of chronic diseases associated with overweight such as diabetes and heart disease.
- In collaboration with primary healthcare providers, almost 15K children of the approximately 60K children in Lee County aged 2-10 and their families received the 5 2 10 message to adopt healthier nutritional choices and increase physical activity into their daily lives.
- We administered 2157 doses of human papilloma virus vaccine (HPV) to prevent cervical and anal cancers. The majority of our clients are younger than 18, but vaccine was provided to adults as well.
- Tobacco Free Lee Coalition and DOH-Lee were successful in advocating for policy changes related to tobacco:
  - Multiple-dwelling units owned by of the Lee County Housing Authority went smoke-free as of January 1, 2013.
  - Lee County School District has adopted an e-cigarette ban in school policy for the 2013-2014 school year.
  - Lee County School District's Adoption of the tobacco education Alternative to Suspension program will be implemented in each of the school district's 4 zones in 2014-15.
  - The Lee County Board of County Commissioners passed a resolution encouraging local retailers to voluntarily restrict the sale of candy-flavored tobacco products.
- The Healthy Lee Coalition brings together health care providers, public health, social service providers, advocates, government leaders and private businesses to promote changes in policy and built environment that support healthy life style choices. Healthy Lee partnered with the Horizon Council to promote work site wellness programs. Healthy Lee members have been advocates for changes in transportation policy and Complete Streets resolutions.



## COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL



Epidemiology and disease control are core functions of public health. We receive reports of communicable disease and reportable conditions from physicians, hospitals, laboratories, veterinarians and the public. Our goal is to minimize the spread of disease and to assure that affected individuals receive prompt and appropriate treatment.

### PUBLIC HEALTH INDICATORS

Indicator	Lee County	Florida
Total vaccine-preventable disease rate/100,000 population	5.7	6.5
Total enteric disease rate/100,000 population	72.8	64.0
AIDS cases reported 2012/100,000 population*	6.9	14.6
TB cases reported 2012/100,000 population*	4.1	4.0
Gonorrhea, Chlamydia, infectious Syphilis 2012/100,000 population*	417.9	518.7
Kindergarten children fully immunized 2010-2012*	95.6%	92.0%
Percent of two year olds who are fully immunized	81.7%	83.0%

\*[www.floridacharts.com](http://www.floridacharts.com)

# COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL



## WHAT WE DID:

- Received 470 reports of enteric illness.
- Investigated 94 reports of foodborne illness.
- Received 37 reports of vaccine-preventable illness.
- Reviewed 1396 reports of animal bites to humans.
- Screened 2895 family planning clients for sexually transmitted diseases (STD).
- Screened 1860 family planning clients for HIV.
- Tuberculosis (TB) staff treated 27 patients for active tuberculosis in 2012. Using a team of physicians, nurses, and paraprofessional home visitors, we provide comprehensive care at no charge until the patient is cured of TB.
- Administered 1416 seasonal influenza vaccine shots to 1407 children, as some children receive 2 doses.
- Administered seasonal influenza vaccine to 1539 adults; our outreach efforts were focused on homeless adults and adults in congregate living facilities.
- In addition to influenza vaccine, we administered 7051 immunizations to adults including hepatitis vaccine (to high risk individuals), Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis), shingles vaccine and foreign travel immunizations.
- Investigated 2698 confirmed cases of bacterial STD's; conducted 723 interviews to elicit potentially infected partners and provide prevention education.
- From 7/1/12 to 6/30/13, STD/HIV staff provided outreach services including HIV pre/post test counseling, HIV testing, STD testing and hepatitis testing to over **1500** clients at outreach locations in Lee county. Outreach locations included Salvation Army, All Souls Church, Metropolitan Community Church, Florida Gulf Coast University, Edison College, ITT Tech, FMIT, DJJ, county parks and many others.
- From 7/1/12 to 6/30/13, our Jail Linkage DIS provided over 500 tests for HIV, syphilis, Gonorrhea, Chlamydia and Hepatitis along with pre- and post-test counseling to inmates at the Lee County jails.

## PERSONAL HEALTH CARE



DOH-Lee provides clinical services for women's health and family planning, diagnosis and treatment of sexually transmissible diseases and tuberculosis. We also provide immunizations to children and adults, case management, and limited assistance in obtaining pharmaceuticals.

DOH-Lee does not provide primary outpatient care. Outpatient care for low income and under-insured residents of Lee County is provided by Family Health Centers of Southwest Florida, Lee Memorial Health System, McGregor Clinic, Volunteers in Medicine and the volunteer physicians of We Care.

### PUBLIC HEALTH INDICATORS **need new indicators (updated last one)**

Indicator	Lee County	Florida
Adults aged 18-64 who lack health insurance (2011) <sup>@</sup>	20.5%	23.5%
Adults who had no doctor visit in past year because of cost (2010)*	19.3%	17.3%
Parents who had difficulty getting child's healthcare in past year (2011) <sup>@</sup>	6.2%	1.9%
Licensed physicians/100,000 population (2011)*	242.4	326.7

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<sup>@</sup><http://www.leecounty.healthforecast.net>

## PERSONAL HEALTH CARE



### WHAT WE DID:

- WIC offered referrals to clients that have a need for other community services including immunizations, dentists, free food programs, Medicaid and Kid Care, parenting classes and assistance from Healthy Start.
- WIC children had increased intakes of important nutrients for cognitive and physical development like iron, potassium, and fiber, and they have lower rates of anemia.
- WIC nutritionists helped families set goals for physical exercise that promote a healthier weight and lifestyle.
- WIC nutrition education has been shown to lead to an increased consumption of whole grains, fruits, and lower-fat milk, and participation in WIC has been shown to reduce the risk of child abuse or neglect.
- The WIC clinic at Pondella Road partnered with the Edison College dental hygiene to provide instruction on tooth brushing and good oral health to WIC clients. Toothbrushes and tooth paste are provided.
- 4722 clients were seen in family planning clinics and received 48,017 services.
- Assisted 26 women and 27 men to receive elective sterilization.
- Many clients used our family planning clinic as a gateway to the health care system. We screened for chronic disease and referred as needed. Without access to our programs, many of our clients would receive no health care services.
- The Refugee Health Program protected Florida's public health by maximizing each individual refugee's personal health. The refugee health nurse provided comprehensive and culturally sensitive services to 305 refugees. These services included laboratory testing, screening for TB and other communicable disease .
- Provided medications to 250 people with HIV/AIDS through the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP).
- DOH-Lee supported Lee County Dental Society's Project Dental Care. Low income Lee County residents received free dental care from volunteer dentists at a clinic housed by the Salvation Army.



## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND ENGINEERING



Environmental Public Health programs are implemented to control or remove disease-causing links between people and their environment. The goal of Environmental Public Health is to PREVENT disease of environmental origin. Simply put, keeping our residents healthy and our communities free of disease is our mission.

We:

- Address the environmental impacts of infectious disease,
- Ensure safe drinking water,
- Prevent foodborne illness,
- Prevent recreational waterborne illness,
- Promote personal hygiene,
- Ensure basic sanitation and safety service, and
- Support a sustainable relationship between public health and the built environment.

### PUBLIC HEALTH INDICATORS:

Indicator	Lee County	Florida
Septic system repairs/1,000 systems in the county	3.2	6.5
Septic system failures within 2years/1,000 new permits (only 1 in this fiscal year)	3.2	1.7
Beach water samples exceeding testing limits	0.0%	4.5%
Pools temporarily closed for health or safety violations	18.7%	14.6%
Outbreaks of Foodborne Illness (per 100,000 residents)	0.31	0.28

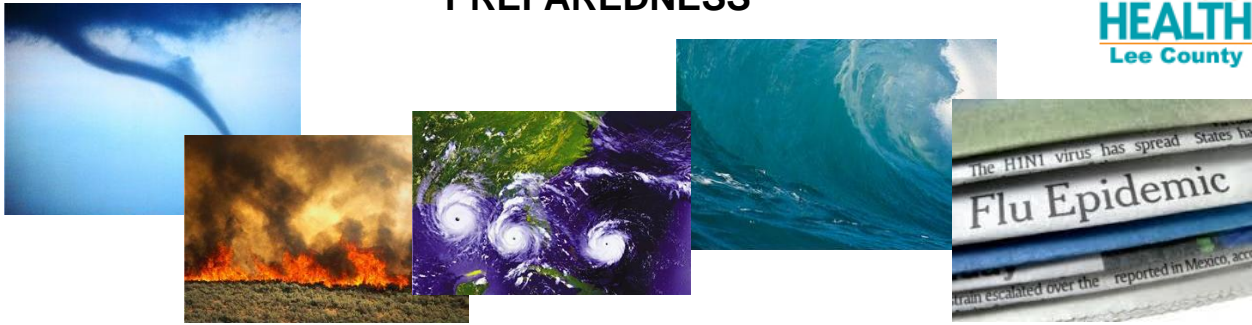
## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND ENGINEERING



### WHAT WE DID

- Issued 309 permits for new septic system. In the past two years, one septic system has failed within 2 years of its approval.
- Conducted 3546 inspections of public pools.
- Issued 88 permits for tattoo establishments in Lee and Charlotte Counties.
- Assured the food prepared in 204 school cafeterias is safe.
- Responded to 520 requests by citizens to investigate unsanitary conditions at sites in the cities and unincorporated areas of the county.
- Collected 10,501 samples from community and non-community water distribution systems; 968 corrective actions were taken either as a result of water sampling or 1840 inspections.
- Monitored water quality at 13 public beaches in Lee County with weekly testing for enterococcal bacteria, collecting 627 samples. No beach advisories were issued during the year.
- There are 455 permitted water distribution systems in Lee County.

## PREPAREDNESS



The purpose of public health preparedness is to be ready to respond to events that are likely to have an adverse impact on the health of the community. The Department of Health in Lee County takes an all-hazards approach to preparedness so we can take effective action when necessary. We address preparedness by working with partner agencies, developing plans, purchasing equipment and supplies in advance to be used in emergencies, training staff and conducting exercises.

### PUBLIC HEALTH INDICATORS:

- Disaster Response – Tropical Storm Isaac struck Lee County during this reporting period.
- Emergency Management Plans – DOH-Lee maintains preparedness plans to guide our response to a range of events (hazard-specific, such as hurricanes and pandemics) and activities common to several types of disasters (functional, such as communications).

### WHAT WE DID:

Disaster Response - DOH-Lee cared for medically vulnerable persons in the Special Needs Shelter during Tropical Storm Isaac. We also used the Incident Command System (ICS) and our Continuity of Operations Plans to suddenly vacate one of our main facilities and provide those services elsewhere for several months due to an unexpected and urgent need to repair the site. This event was affectionately referred to as “Operation Bug-Out”.

Plans – The Base Plan, the Special Needs Shelter Annex and the Strategic National Stockpile Annex were updated. We also assessed vulnerable populations in Lee County to better understand and meet their particular needs when disaster strikes.

Training – We provided seven Incident Command System (ICS) courses in Lee County for our staff and our partners. DOH-Lee staff members also participated in disaster and leadership courses that were offered by our partners and other public health agencies. In addition, staff members who were pre-assigned to work in the Special Needs Shelter were given shelter and position-specific training.

Exercises - DOH-Lee contracted with experts to conduct a tabletop exercise for its staff and its partners to explore in depth setting up and running an Alternate Care Center if a disaster compromised the local hospitals’ ability to care for everyone needing their help. This resulted in the formation of a multi-agency team that is developing county-specific plans to address such an event. A few FDOH-Lee staff members also participated in hospital, airport, post office and neighboring health department exercises. All DOH-Lee staff participated in emergency notification drills.



**“Operation Bug Out”  
Much needed repairs at  
Michigan  
Before,  
During,  
& After**



# OPERATIONS



DOH-Lee relies upon a strong Operation Division to provide the organization with the necessary resources to meet the needs of the people we serve. This is done by helping to develop a flexible budget to ensure resources are applied efficiently and effectively to accomplish our mission of protecting and promoting the health of all residents and visitors in Lee County.

The department must raise 36 percent of its operating budget through providing services and fulfilling grant requirements. It has its own checking account (called a Trust Fund) with the State Comptroller's office where it deposits earned revenue and then issues checks to pay for all its expenditures. The department must be run like a business to stay solvent by assuring its expenditures do not exceed its revenue.

## WHO WE ARE:

- Accounting
- Budget and Contracts
- Information Technologies/Management Information Systems
- Facilities
- Staff Development & Training
- Purchasing - Central & Receiving
- Human Resources

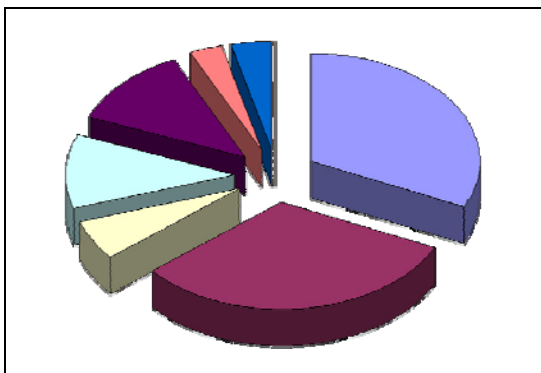
## PUBLIC HEALTH INDICATORS:

- Please see the budget on the following page.
- From July 2012 through June 2013, Lee County WIC Program clients redeemed \$14,842,178 in WIC checks at over 80 grocery stores in the area. This represents an average contribution to the local economy of \$1,236,848 a month.

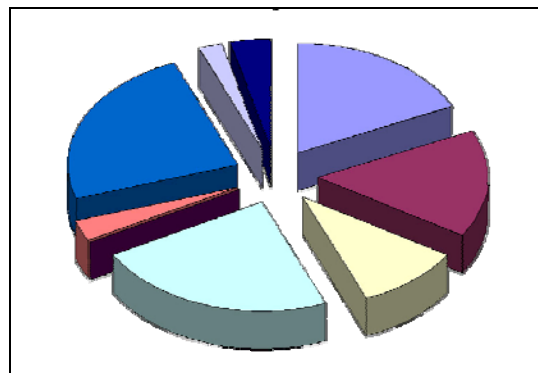
## 2012 – 2013 BUDGET



### REVENUE



### EXPENDITURES



	Direct Clinical Services	18%		Direct Clinical Services	18%
	Communicable Disease Control	16%		Communicable Disease Control	16%
	Community Health	10%		Community Health	10%
	Environmental Health and Engineering	23%		Environmental Health and Engineering	23%
	Public Health Preparedness	3%		Public Health Preparedness	3%
	Nutrition and WIC	24%		Nutrition and WIC	24%
	Vital Statistics	2%		Vital Statistics	2%
	Special Contracts and DOH Assessments	4%		Special Contracts and DOH Assessments	4%

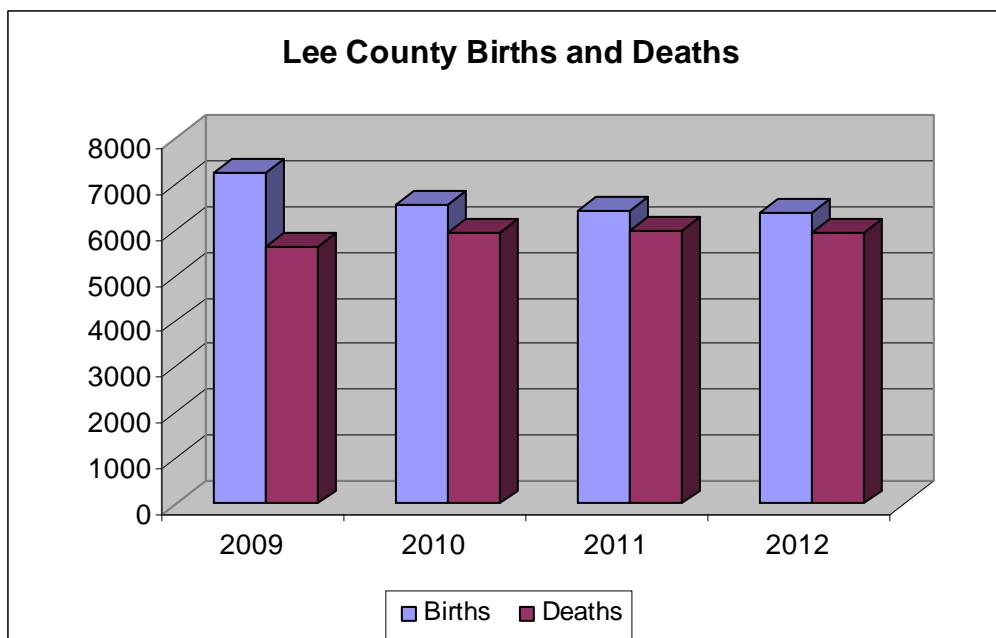
REVENUE 2012-2013			EXPENDITURES 2012-2013		
Federal Funds	\$	5,036,237	Direct Clinical Services	\$	2,850,309
State Funding	\$	5,042,889	Disease Control	\$	2,455,434
Fees for Clinic Services	\$	896,861	Community Health	\$	1,601,594
Regulatory Fees & Fines	\$	1,774,887	Environmental Health and Engineering	\$	3,617,549
County General Revenue	\$	1,975,872	Public Health Preparedness	\$	518,596
Local Grants for Services	\$	463,087	Nutrition and WIC	\$	3,783,592
Death and Birth Certificates	\$	603,475	Vital Statistics	\$	279,824
Interest and Refunds	\$	2,644	Special Contracts and DOH Assessments	\$	654,639
			Expenditure Total	\$	15,761,537
			Transfer to Cash Reserve		34,415
Total	\$	15,795,952	Total	\$	15,795,952



## VITAL STATISTICS



Vital statistics are the information maintained by the DOH-Lee recording the birth and death of individuals within the county. These data are used to evaluate the effectiveness of public health programs and are the cornerstone of public health systems today. Birth Certificates are now available two days after birth. Florida Death Certificates are available regardless of county of death. There were 8,216 births and 5,815 deaths recorded in Lee County in 2007. In 2012 there were 6,401 births and 5,946 deaths recorded. When compared to the building boom in 2007, there has been a 22.1% decrease in births in Lee County which could be a result from the economic recession in the county where many young families left to find work elsewhere.



### WHAT WE DID:

In May 2013 the DOH-Lee Vital Statistics office partnered with the Lee County Tax Collector to issue certified Florida birth certificates.

This allowed the Tax Collector's office to issue a birth certificate needed by their customers to get a driver's license in a one stop operation.

The Lee County Tax Collector collects a service fee of \$6.25 in addition to the \$12.00 fee per certificate for each order.

Through October 2013 the Lee County Tax Collectors office had issued 345 birth certificates to their customers, thus saving them the time and the additional travel expense they would have incurred making a separate trip to the health department to obtain a birth certificate.